4 STEPS TO WRITING A THESIS

STEP 1 — THE QUESTION

• Pose a question that can be answered by your research.

- EXAMPLE:
- What are the major Forces that contributed to the Mormon migration from New York to the Great Basin?

 What are some questions you could ask based on the research you've performed so far?

STEP 2 – THE DECLARATION

Make a claim by stating your opinion.

- EXAMPLE:
- Religious persecution was the biggest FORCE that drove the migration of the Mormon settlers from New York to the Great Basin.

• Based on what you've learned so far, what is your opinion on the question? How would you answer the question?

STEP 3 — THE REASONING

Support your claim with reasons.

• EXAMPLE:

• Non-Mormons didn't want Mormons in their community because they didn't like that Mormons believed they had the one true church. They didn't like Mormons because they heard rumors that Mormons practiced polygamy. They didn't like Mormons because they were afraid of Mormons taking over their communities by speaking with a single unified political voice in elections.

• Why is this your opinion? What makes you think that? Cite three examples from your research.

STEP 4 — THE THESIS

Put it all together and write your completed thesis.

• EXAMPLE:

• Non-Mormons didn't want Mormons in their community because they didn't like that Mormons believed they had the one true church. They didn't like Mormons because they heard rumors that Mormons practiced polygamy. They didn't like Mormons because they were afraid of Mormons taking over their communities by speaking with a single unified political voice in elections.

• What are some of your examples:

• The Topaz Relocation Center was not as bad as some other relocation centers were during World War II. At Topaz, fewer inmates were killed, there were fewer riots because soldiers treated inmates with more dignity than at other camps.